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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/754,141	01/09/2004	Amin M. Godil	D/A3522 XERZ 2 00678	7493
27885	7590	03/24/2006	EXAMINER	
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1100 SUPERIOR AVENUE, SEVENTH FLOOR			ART UNIT	
CLEVELAND, OH 44114			PAPER NUMBER	

3742

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3742

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 2, 12, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Us Pat. 5691756 (US'756) in view of US Pat. 5860052 (US'052).

Referring to Fig. 3 and col. 2, lines 50-63, US'756 discloses a laminate printing media preheater 50, 58, which is conventionally a film heater pattern separated from heater plate 50 by an insulating but thermally conductive layer. US'756 does not explicitly disclose a thermal fuse. However, US'052 discloses, at Figs. 3 & 4b, col. 5, lines 51-53, and col. 6, lines 26-61, a thermal fuse 21 used in planar-type fixing heater. It would have been obvious to utilize such a fuse in a media preheater for exactly the same reason that commends its use in a fixing heater, to prevent overheating. Moreover, the thermally conductive insulator inherent in US'756 would transmit heat energy to the fuse, as recited in claims 17 and 18.

Allowable Subject Matter


Claims 3-7, 8-11, 13-16, 19, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph M. Pelham whose telephone number is 571-272-4786. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robin Evans can be reached on 571-272-4777. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

3/20/06



JOSEPH PELHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINEE